Declassified i	n Part - Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2013/06/10 : Cl	A-RDP80-00810A002800590004-6
	CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY	REPORT
	INFORMATION REPORT	CD
COUNTRY	East Germany	DATE DISTR. 17 November 1953
SUBJECT	Controversy in East Germany over DIN and GOST Standards	NO. OF PAGES 1
PLACE ACQUIRED	<u> </u>	NO. OF ENCLS.
DATE OF INFO.		SUPPLEMENT TO SOX1-HUM REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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- 1. In August 1953, the est Berlin Neue Zeitung carried an article on standardization in East Germany. This detailed and circumstantial article clearly indicated that there was a tendency in East Germany to replace DIN standards with GOST standards and that Eberhard Arlt, president chief of the Office for Standardization, was strongly backing the GOST standards.
- 2. The article apparently came as a shock to the State Planning Commission. Action was immediately taken by Deputy Minister-President Heinrich Rau to contradict the article. Plans were made to show, at special exhibits erected for the purpose at the Leipzig Fall Fair, that East Germany, in accordance with the so-called arbitrator's decision, is applying DIN standards, as well as ISA and ISO recommendations, as widely as possible. As proof, it was planned to exhibit on charts a few technical products (probably optical instruments from Zeiss, Jena) to which DIN standards are applied.
- 3. Actually, the State Planning Commission, through its arbitrator's decision, directed that BIN standards be applied. On the other hand, the Central Committee of the SED, including Arlt, advocates the adoption of GOST standards. The Central Committee's intention is meeting resistance, however, even from party members, insofar as their opinions are determined by purely technical considerations. Among the opponents of the Central Committee view is Engineer Erwin Goepel, who is subordinate to Arlt. Thich point of view will prevail cannot be foreseen.

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